ULES AND ARTICLES,

TO BE OBSERVED BY

THE HAND IN HAND

FIRE COMPANY,

IN

THE TOWN OF HALIFAX,

INSTITUTED

THE 28th DAY of JANUARY, 1789.

REVISED

AND ORDERED TO BE RE-PRINTED,

AT

A QUARTERLY MEETING

Held the 5th of Auguſt, 1801.

HALIFAX:

ited by JOHN HOWE, Printer to the KING's Moſt Excel-
lent Majeſty.

NS
352.3
++
TR

R

F

W

efpec
fatal
ble,
deſtr
ackn
of ev
have
are t
baſer
ſons,
to ſu
tratic
unde

1790

RULES AND ARTICLES,

TO BE OBSERVED BY

THE HAND IN HAND

FIRE COMPANY.

WHEREAS it is the indiſpenſable duty of every member of a community, more eſpecially in compact towns, to guard againſt the fatal effects of Fire, and to prevent, as much as poſſible, the dreadful conſequences of ſo alarming and deſtructive a calamity: and whereas it is generally acknowledged and confeſſed, from the experience of every well-regulated ſociety, that public aſſociations have the beſt tendency to prevent thoſe evils which are too frequently felt by the unfortunate, from the baſeneſs and treachery of wicked and deſigning perſons, who avail themſelves of the confuſion incident to ſuch events, as the moſt favorable for the perpetration of their vile and inhuman practices: We the underwritten, convinced of the truth of theſe facts, and

and ſatisfied of the many and great benefits, which will reſult from the eſtabliſhment of one or more Fire Companies, in this town, and repoſing ſpecial truſt and confidence in the honor and integrity of each other, do hereby unite and agree, to form ourſelves into a Company, to be called and known by the name of THE HAND IN HAND FIRE-COMPANY, engaging to exert ourſelves whenever a fire may break out in this town, to relieve and aſſiſt our fellow-townſmen in general, and the Members of this Company in particular; and, in order the more effectually to carry theſe our intentions into execution, we agree and promiſe to obey and obſerve the following Rules and Articles, under the penalties and forfeitures therein mentioned.

I.

For the more orderly conducting the buſineſs of this Company on every occaſion, there ſhall be a Preſident and Vice Preſident choſen annually by ballot on the firſt Wedneſday in February. The Preſident ſhall attend to all motions made and ſeconded, and put the ſame to vote, and every reſolution to be determined by a majority, excepting that of admitting a Member, which ſhall be unanimous; and in the abſence of the Preſident, the Vice-Preſident ſhall ſupply his place.

II.

There ſhall alſo be a Clerk appointed on the firſt Wedneſday in February, annually, for which office every

very member preſent, the Preſident and Vice-Preſident choſen for the ſame year, only excepted, ſhall draw lots, and he that draws No. 1 ſhall execute that office for one year, or pay a fine of fifteen ſhillings, and the drawing to be renewed until one is found to ſerve: and whoever ſerves or pays the fine for not ſerving, ſhall not draw again, until every member in the company has done the ſame. The Clerk is to receive all fines and forfeitures, to ſettle all reckonings at meetings, and to account with the company for all monies he may receive, and diſburſe, during the time he is in office, and as often as the company may think proper to call upon him; he is alſo to warn all meetings by leaving a ſummons at each member's houſe two days before the time of meeting; likewiſe to call on four of the members, once in every quarter, in rotation, as they ſtand on the liſt, to accompany him for the purpoſe of examining into the ſtate of the buckets, bags and baſkets, and of obſerving that the regulations of this company are punctually adhered to, and likewiſe to be better acquainted with the dwellings of each other. The Clerk is alſo to keep a fair and perfect minute of all the tranſactions of the company, and to report to the Preſident, at every quarterly meeting, all deficiencies, that he may diſcover, either in buckets, bags or baſkets at the time of his viſiting the members as aforeſaid. Any member refuſing to make his viſit in his turn, ſhall be reported by the Clerk and pay a fine of one dollar.

III.

This company ſhall not exceed in number forty perſons

perſons, and each member, on admiſſion, ſhall depoſit into the hands of the Clerk, one dollar, as a fund to the company; they ſhall meet on the firſt Wedneſday of February, May, Auguſt and November, annually, at ſuch public houſe as the Preſident for the time being ſhall appoint:—in the months of November and February at ſeven o'clock in the evening, and in the months of May and Auguſt at eight o'clock in the evening, and ſuch member as ſhall be abſent at roll calling, which ſhall take place at the time herein fixed for meeting, ſhall pay a fine of one ſhilling and three pence, and if abſent the whole evening, unleſs prevented by ſickneſs, or being out of town, two ſhillings and ſixpence; and any member quitting a quarterly meeting, before the reckoning is ſettled, without leave from the Preſident, ſhall pay a fine of half a dollar.

IV.

Each Member ſhall, within one month after his admiſſion into this company, furniſh himſelf with two good leather buckets, ſtrong and well made, to contain nearly three gallons of water, with a proper and ſubſtantial handle; and alſo two bags of one yard and three quarters in length, made of ravens duck, each having ſtrings fixed, in order to cloſe them when filled; the buckets and bags marked with the owner's name at length; and underneath, upon the buckets, two claſped hands, handſomely painted, to deſignate them as the property of the members of this company; alſo, with one baſket, two and an half feet long, by one and an half feet wide, marked upon the ſide H. H.

The

The buckets and bags ſhall be conſtantly hung up; and the baſket kept in the moſt convenient part of the houſe, and not to be uſed or removed on any pretence whatever, except on an alarm of fire, under the penalty of one dollar, for each and every article that may be ſo uſed or removed.

V.

Every member, upon hearing an alarm of fire ſhall immediately repair with buckets, bags and baſket to the place of danger, and there give every aſſiſtance in his power, for the preſervation of the effects of his fellow-townſmen. But whenever the property of any member of the company ſhall be in real danger, the ſaving thereof ſhall be the primary object of the company's care and attention. For which purpoſe the members ſhall ſeverally go, with bags and baſket to the houſe or ſtore containing the effects in danger, and proceed in removing them, agreeably to the directions of the owner, if preſent, or, otherwiſe, as ſhall appear beſt for his intereſt and benefit. And every member who through negligence or indolence ſhall omit to give his aſſiſtance, on ſuch an occaſion, ſhall be for ever expelled the company, unleſs he can give a ſatisfactory reaſon to the company for his omiſſion.

VI.

In order to prevent any deceit or impoſition from intruders, at the removal of effects in the time of fire, one of the members ſhall ſtand as centinel at the

the door of the houſe where the company is employed.

VII.

When any of the members ſhall remove to another houſe, he ſhall give notice thereof to the Clerk, who will acquaint each member of ſuch removal, in the courſe of one week after, on penalty of paying dollars; and every member neglecting to give notice of ſuch his removal, in one week after, ſhall pay a fine of one dollar.

VIII.

If any of the members of this company ſhall loſe his or their buckets, bags or baſkets at a fire, and ſhall declare the ſame at the firſt meeting of the company after the fire, and that upon his honor he hath made a diligent and proper ſearch for their recovery, the expence of replacing ſuch buckets, bags or baſkets, ſhall be paid out of the fund of the company.

IX.

Each member ſhall be furniſhed by the Clerk with a printed Copy of theſe Articles, complete, with the members' names, and at every quarterly meeting, the Preſident ſhall cauſe them to be read, that none of the members may plead ignorance of the articles by which they are bound; and whoever abſents himſelf for three quarterly meetings, ſucceſſively, unleſs prevented by ſickneſs or abſence from town, ſhall be deemed as having quitted the company, and ſhall not be

be admitted again, without the uſual ceremony of election, and paying all fines he may have incurred from the time of his laſt attendance.

X.

All the caſh belonging to the company, which may be in poſſeſſion of the Clerk, ſhall be applied to ſuch purpoſes as the company may direct; and the Clerk, upon a new election, ſhall deliver over to his ſucceſſor in office, all the books and papers belonging to the company, together with the caſh remaining in his hands, with a correct ſtate of the funds and of the fines due from each member; and any member or members refuſing to pay his or their fines for the ſpace of three months after the annual election, unleſs rendered unable by misfortunes, ſhall be excluded the company.

XI.

And the Preſident for the time being, ſhall have it in his power, on the requeſt of any ſeven or more members, to call a meeting of the company, at which all the members are bound to attend, under the ſame penalties and forfeitures as are ſtipulated for abſentees from quarterly meetings; and the expences of all and every meeting ſhall be ſuſtained in equal proportions by the members preſent, excepting the Clerk for the time being, who, in conſideration of his ſervices, ſhall always be exempted from ſuch expences.

XII.

XII.

As the preſent Engine Company in this town, is entitled to the firſt care and attention of the inhabitants, in the time of fire, this company will extend to them the ſame aid and relief as if they were actually members thereof, and alſo to ſuch other Engine Companies as may hereafter be formed.

PRESENT MEMBERS of the HAND IN HAND FIRE COMPANY, in the Town of Halifax, 1802, viz.

James Clarke
William J. Allmon
John William Schwartz
Andrew Liddell
Gharles Geddes
John George Pyke
Charles Hill
Richard John Uniacke
Edward Kerby
Richard Kidſton
William Forſyth
John Burroughs
Robert Letſon
Michael Wallace
Winckworth Allan
Andrew Belcher
William Taylor
William Cochran
Lawrence Hartſhorne
John Boyd
Daniel Wood
William Lyon
James Foreman
Conſtant Connor
Foſter Hutchinſon
Thomas Boggs
George Graſſie
John Bremner
Jonathan Tremain, jun.
Matthew Richardſon
Robert Hill
John Fillis
James Stewart
James Thom
James Tidmarſh
Henry Yeomans
Thomas Wallace
John Simſon
James Leaver

n, is.
habi-
tend
actu-
ngine

FIRE
z.

, jun.
ſon